



Prefix 289 and 290 Investigation

There appears to have been multiple print runs for both the 289 and 290 Cambodia phonecards. The first printing for each prefix contains 10000 cards and the \$2.00 and \$5.00 printed on the back of the phonecard uses a smaller font than the later prints. See below pictures showing the differences for each prefix.



The below table shows the cards that exist for the above printing of the 289 and 290 smaller font on the back of the card.

Range	Known Cards	Example Image from each 1000 print run
Prefix 289		
28900000 – 28900999		
28901000 – 28901999	28901787 28901975	
28902000 – 28902999	28902728 28902783 28902792 28902795 28902799 28902838 28902839	
28903000 – 28903999	28903121 28903128 28903215 28903671	

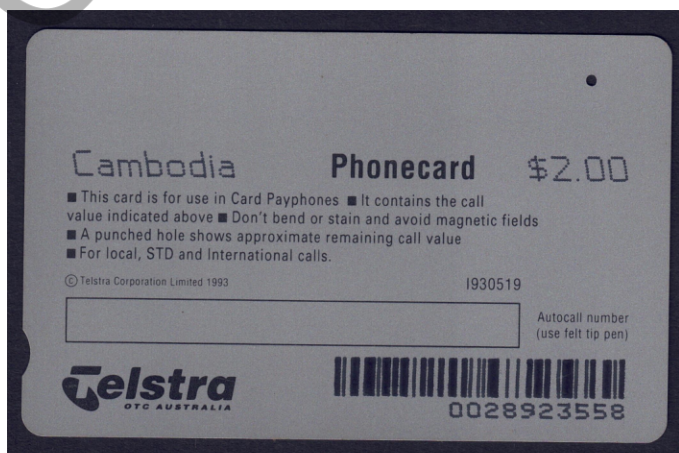
<p>28904000 – 28904999</p>	<p>28904057 28904371 28904378 28904652 28904921</p>	
<p>28905000 – 28905999</p>	<p>28905104 28905414 28905749 28905803</p>	
<p>28906000 - 28906999</p>	<p>28906001 28906005 28906027 28906049 28906066 28906208 28906209 28906230 28906258 28906261 28906400 28906401 28906402 28906404 28906438 28906440 28906441 28906442 28906443 28906445 28906448 28906462 28906463 28906465 28906486 28906487 28906489 28906514 28906541 28906542 28906543 28906546</p>	

	28906557 28906832	
28907000 – 28907999	28907393 28907613	
28908000 – 28908999	28909558 28909563 28909572 28909574 28909575 28909579 28909585 28909587 28909595 28909755 28909756 28909892	
28909000 – 28909999		
Prefix 290		
29000000 – 29000999	29000112 29000117 29000159 29000161 29000168 29000169 29000170 29000171 29000188 29000232 29000664 29000965 29000965	

<p>29001000 – 29001999</p>	<p>29001311 29001405</p>	 <p>Cambodia Phonecard \$5.00</p> <p>■ This card is for use in Card Payphones ■ It contains the call value indicated above ■ Don't bend or stain and avoid magnetic fields</p> <p>■ A punched hole shows approximate remaining call value</p> <p>■ For local, STD and international calls.</p> <p>Telstra Corporation Limited 1993 1930529</p> <p>Autocall number (use left tip pen)</p> <p>Telstra <small>BYD AUSTRALIA</small></p> <p>0029001311</p>
<p>29002000 – 29002999</p>	<p>29002510</p>	 <p>Cambodia Phonecard \$5.00</p> <p>■ This card is for use in Card Payphones ■ It contains the call value indicated above ■ Don't bend or stain and avoid magnetic fields</p> <p>■ A punched hole shows approximate remaining call value</p> <p>■ For local, STD and international calls.</p> <p>Telstra Corporation Limited 1993 1930529</p> <p>Autocall number (use left tip pen)</p> <p>Telstra <small>BYD AUSTRALIA</small></p> <p>0029002510</p>
<p>29003000 – 29003999</p>	<p>29003352 29003386 29003444</p>	 <p>Cambodia Phonecard \$5.00</p> <p>■ This card is for use in Card Payphones ■ It contains the call value indicated above ■ Don't bend or stain and avoid magnetic fields</p> <p>■ A punched hole shows approximate remaining call value</p> <p>■ For local, STD and international calls.</p> <p>Telstra Corporation Limited 1993 1930529</p> <p>Autocall number (use left tip pen)</p> <p>Telstra <small>BYD AUSTRALIA</small></p> <p>0029003444</p>
<p>29004000 – 29004999</p>	<p>29004208 29004342 29004869</p>	
<p>29005000 – 29005999</p>	<p>29004208 29004342 29004869 29005157 29005695</p>	
<p>29006000 – 29006999</p>	<p>29006307 29006832</p>	

29007000 – 29007999	29007227 29007424	
29008000 – 289008999	29008151 29008219 29008317	
29009000 – 29009999	29009118 29009159 29009161	 <p data-bbox="580 1111 999 1137">Figure 1 Photo from Ken Hosking collection</p>

The second printing of the 289 Cambodia cards starts from 28919xxxx and goes to 2892999.



There was an interesting letter to the editor in the June 1995 Phonecard Monthly by I.J. Victoria that indicated that there was also Cambodia phonecards printed in the 28914xxx and 28916xxx range. However, I have never seen one and the collectors I contacted hadn't either. If you have one in the above ranges or between 29013xxx – 28919xxx I would appreciate a photo and will add to this article.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations on "going full time" as you recently indicated. I think you will do well and at least enjoy what you are doing.

I read with interest the letter about what was Australia's rarest card, including OTC, Christmas Island, Cambodia, etc. and the comments about the **Fifty** only Vietnam cards (*Letters to the Editor - May APM*).

I believe this is wrong, even though it may be supported by some paperwork, the paperwork does not state that it was the **only fifty** cards issued.

I have had three of these cards over a time and still have one used card. The serial number on that card is 28910011, a far cry from the numbers listed in Mr Allen's letter from Vietnam. This would indicate at least a range from 28910011 through to 28912149, being some 2,100 cards.

From my studies of the overseas generics, particularly in the 289 prefix, I have noted the following from cards that I have actually seen when trying to build a history of the various printings

28900271	\$2 Cambodia
28909996	\$2 Cambodia
28910011	\$50 Vietnam
28914724	\$2 Cambodia
28916000	\$2 Cambodia
28919068	\$10 Christmas Island
28927980	\$2 Cambodia

and later printings of the \$2 Cambodian card, printed years apart.

I understand that the first printing of the Cambodian card was 10,000 (28900000 - 28909999) and that the then Vietnam card was printed. It would be interesting to have any reader publish another letter and advise any 289 prefix cards they have between 289 10,000 and 289 20,000.

It is my opinion that approximately 4,000 or 4,500 of the Vietnam cards were **printed**.

My opinion re the rarest card would not be to include the 600 run cards as they are not face different or from a different reprint, likewise with the Anritsu. It was not an **issued** card for use in phones, being a specimen card.

What does this leave - maybe the two rarest different cards as issued (without looking at prefix runs or specimens) would be the \$50 Vietnam or the \$100 Cambodia (Lao) card.

Open for comments, praise or criticism.

L.J. Victoria

My estimation of the lowest issue (to date) is the one Australia set of which 10,000 were issued and approximately 9,600 have been 'withdrawn' by Telecom. If the 'withdrawn' phonecards are shredded, those which remain in circulation will become invaluable - Ed.

The Cambodia phonecards within the 289 prefix above 28950000 have been printed using the same back design as the prefix 418 phonecards. According to the Colnect website there was 50000 produced (289 50000 to 289 99999). However, the only known phonecards with this variation are in the 289,5xxxx range. As you can see from the below example the "\$" sign is large and bold just the same as the prefix 418 phonecards.

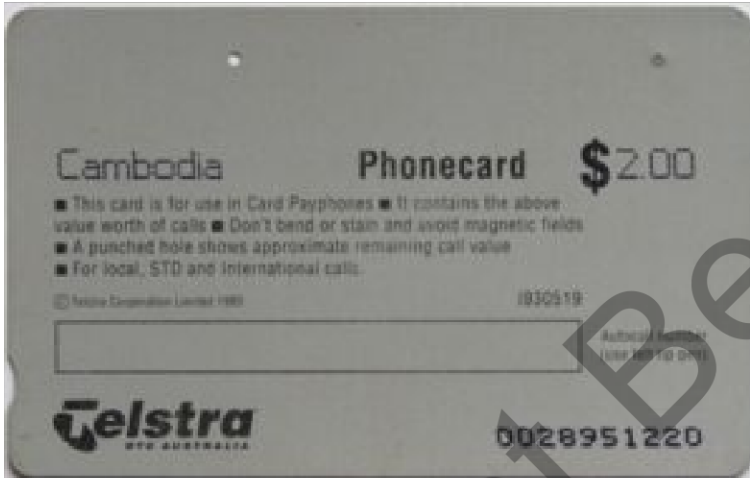
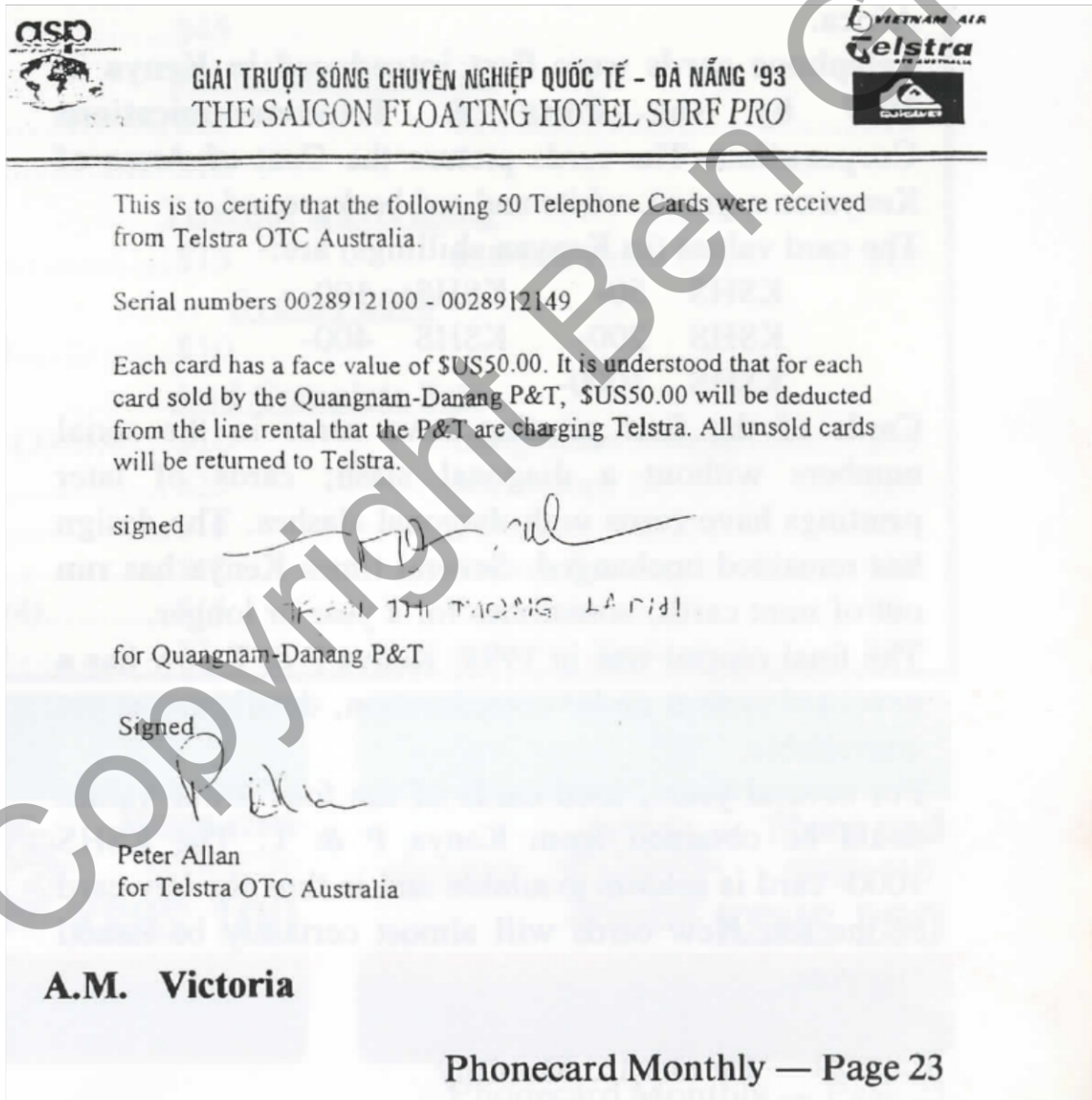


Figure 2 Courtesy of the Colnect Website

The second printing of the 290 Cambodia phonecards is between 29012000 and 29019999. The other 2,000 cards between 2901000 and 29011999 are the \$20 Christmas Island cards on the Satellite.



Also, regarding the 289 Vietnam phonecard there may have been several limited print runs as there has been phonecards spotted between 28910000 - 28910050 and 28912000 - 28912149. The below letter indicates that only the ones between 28912100 - 28912149 were available at the surfing event.



The following images show examples of the relevant print runs of the Vietnam phonecard.

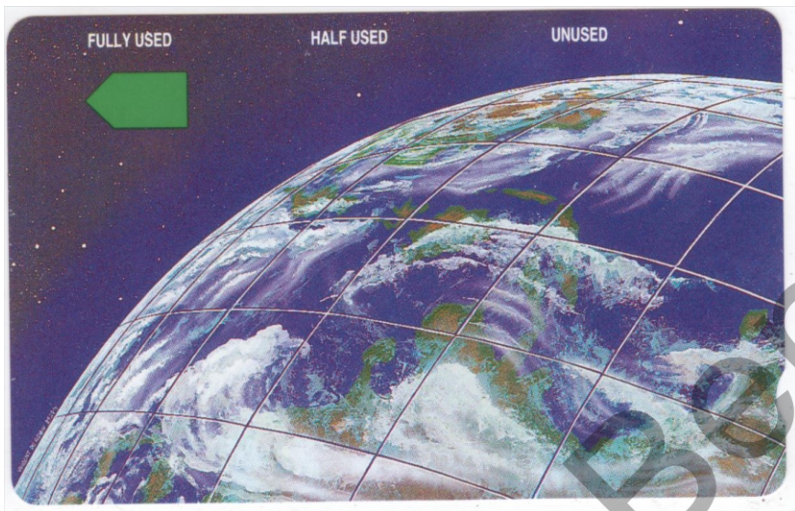


Figure 3 Courtesy of the Phonecard Museum



Figure 4 From the Ron Moss Collection



Figure 5 Photo from the Colnect website

I would like to thank Ron Moss and Ken Hosking who have assisted with the above investigations and provided images of phonecards in their collections.